

Mississippi River St Cloud Watershed Partnership
Project Communication, Participation, and Meeting Norms Guide

Staff Steering Committee

Process Norms

- We will start / end on time
- Members will complete pre-work, read materials, and be prepared to meet
- Note-taker is to capture highlights of the discussion and decisions made, but not detailed minutes
- We will be respectful and promote open communication
- We will identify clear deadlines for when tasks are assigned to members and strive to meet them (both in developing materials and responding / providing feedback)
- Group will speak positively and honestly
- Will establish and respect a “parking lot” approach for ideas
- Group will strive to make decisions on a consensus basis
- A timekeeper will be designated each meeting (alphabetical order) to keep the agenda on track

Policy Committee

Process Norms

- Follow Robert’s Rules of Order
- Everyone will contribute to the conversation
- Strive for consensus and support the final outcomes/decisions
- Decisions will be based in sound science
- All voices count. All opinions are valid, but offer reasoning behind your thinking
- Ask clarifying questions to seek further understanding
- Note-taker is to capture highlights of the discussion and decisions made, but not detailed minutes

Preparation Norms

- Meetings will start / end on time
- Members will complete pre-work, read materials, and be prepared to meet
- Request additional information prior to meeting if necessary
- We will identify clear deadlines for when tasks are assigned to members and strive to meet them (both in developing materials and responding / providing feedback)

Communication Norms

- Be respectful and promote open communication
- Listen to understand
- Respect each other's opinions
- Stay on topic and pay attention
- Silence phones and exercise proper meeting decorum